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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 5b
BP
1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a status certification for a message in a communications network comprising:
- (a) assigning a message identifier for said message;
 - (b) creating a disposition identifier in response to a disposition event;
 - (c) associating said disposition identifier with said message;
 - (d) receiving a request for a status notification of said message from a sender of said message;
 - (e) compiling said message identifier and said disposition identifier to generate said status notification; and
 - (f) providing said status notification to said sender in response to said request.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
- (g) billing a party to said message for said providing of said status certification.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said disposition event comprises at least one of:
- a managing event; and
 - a dispatching event.
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4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

accessing said message;
deleting said message;
presenting an indication of said message;
expiring said message; and
terminating a recipient of said message from said communications network.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

denying said status certification of said message; and
malfunctioning of said status certification of said message.

6. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said dispatching event comprises at least one of:

forwarding said message; and
replying to said message.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said status notification comprises at least one of:

an audio message;
a video message;
a text message;
a short message service message; and
a markup language document.

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8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said communications network comprises at least one of:

- an electronic communications network;
- a text-based communications network;
- a telecommunications network;
- a video-enabled communications network; and
- a multimedia-enabled communications network.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

- a type identifier;
- an alphanumeric identifier;
- a capabilities identifier; and
- an annotation.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

- a communication network identifier;
- a device identifier;
- a role identifier;
- a party identifier;
- a date identifier; and
- a time identifier.

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11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said role identifier comprises at least one of:

an originator;
a sender;
a caller;
a recipient; and
a system administrator.

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12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said party identifier comprises at least one of:

an email address;
an access address;
a voice sample; and
an image.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing an attribute for said status certification for said message, wherein said attribute comprises at least one of:

said message identifier;
said disposition identifier; and
said status notification.

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14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising administrative functionality, wherein said administrative functionality comprises at least one of:

deleting said attribute;
monitoring said attribute;
moving said attribute;
forwarding said attribute;
securing said attribute;
archiving said attribute;
backing up said attribute;
informing a recipient of said attribute; and
blocking said attribute.

15. (Original) The method in claim 1, wherein said request comprises a secure request.

16. (Original) The method in claim 1, wherein said request comprises dialing an access number.

17. (Original) The method in claim 1, wherein said request comprises a hypertext transfer protocol request (HTTP) directed to a uniform resource locator address (URL).

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18. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a status certification for a voicemail message in a telecommunications network comprising:

- (a) assigning a message identifier for said message;
- (b) creating a disposition identifier in response to a disposition event; and
- (c) associating said disposition identifier with said message;

receiving a request for a status notification from a sender of said message;

compiling said message identifier and said disposition identifier to generate said status notification; and

providing said status notification to said sender in response to said request.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising:

- (d) billing a party to said message for said providing of said status certification.

21. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said disposition event comprises at least one of:

- a managing event; and
- a dispatching event.

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22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

accessing said message;
deleting said message;
presenting an indication of said message;
expiring said message; and
terminating a recipient of said message from said communications network.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

denying said status certification of said message; and
malfunctioning of said status certification of said message.

24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said dispatching event comprises at least one of:

forwarding said message; and
replying to said message.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~19~~18, wherein said status notification comprises at least one of:

an audio message;
a video message;
a text message;
a short message service message; and a markup language document.

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26. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:
a type identifier;
an alphanumeric identifier;
a capabilities identifier; and
an annotation.

27. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:
a communication network identifier;
a device identifier;
a role identifier;
a party identifier;
a date identifier; and
a time identifier.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said role identifier comprises at least one of:
an originator;
a sender;
a caller;
a recipient; and a system administrator.

29. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said party identifier comprises at least one of:
an email address;
an access address;
a voice sample; and
an image.

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30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~19~~18, further comprising storing an attribute for said status certification for said message, wherein said attribute comprises at least one of:

said message identifier;
said disposition identifier; and
said status notification.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30, further comprising administrative functionality, wherein said administrative functionality comprises at least one of:

deleting said attribute;
monitoring said attribute;
moving said attribute;
forwarding said attribute;
securing said attribute;
archiving said attribute;
backing up said attribute;
informing a recipient of said attribute; and
blocking said attribute.

32. (Currently Amended) The method in claim ~~19~~18, wherein said request comprises a secure request.

33. (Currently Amended) The method in claim ~~19~~18, wherein said request comprises dialing an access number.

34. (Currently Amended) The method in claim ~~19~~18, wherein said request comprises a hypertext transfer protocol request (HTTP) directed to a uniform resource locator address (URL).

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35. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a status certification for a video mail message in a video-enabled communications network comprising:

- (a) assigning a message identifier for said message;
- (b) creating a disposition identifier in response to a disposition event; and
- (c) associating said disposition identifier with said message.

receiving a request for a status notification from a sender of said message;

compiling said message identifier and said disposition identifier to generate said status notification; and

providing said status notification to said sender in response to said request.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a status certification for a message in a communications network comprising:

- (a) a processor operative to assign a message identifier for said message;
- (b) said processor further operative to create a disposition identifier in response to a disposition event;

(c) said processor further operative to associate said disposition identifier with said message;

(d) said processor further operative to receive a request for a status notification from a sender of said message;

(e) said processor further operative to compile said message identifier and said disposition identifier to generate said status notification; and

(f) said processor further operative to provide said status notification to said sender in response to said request.

38. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said processor is further operative to:

- (g) bill a party to said message for said providing of said status certification.

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39. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said disposition event comprises at least one of:

a managing event; and
a dispatching event.

40. (Original) The system of claim 39, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

accessing said message;
deleting said message;
presenting an indication of said message;
expiring said message; and
terminating a recipient of said message from said communications network.

41. (Original) The system of claim 39, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

denying said status certification of said message; and
malfunctioning of said status certification of said message.

42. (Original) The system of claim 39, wherein said dispatching event comprises at least one of:

forwarding said message; and
replying to said message.

43. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said status notification comprises at least one of:

an audio message;
a video message;
a text message;
a short message service message; and
a markup language document.

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44. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said communications network comprises at least one of:

- a electronic communications network;
- a text-based communications network;
- a telecommunications network;
- a video-enabled communications network; and
- a multimedia-enabled communications network.

45. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

- a type identifier;
- an alphanumeric identifier
- a capabilities identifier; and
- an annotation.

46. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

- a communication network identifier;
- a device identifier;
- a role identifier
- a party identifier;
- a date identifier; and
- a time identifier.

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47. (Original) The system of claim 46, wherein said role identifier comprises at least one of:

an originator;
a sender;
a caller;
a recipient; and
a system administrator.

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48. (Original) The system of claim 46, wherein said party identifier comprises at least one of:

an email address;
an access address;
a voice sample; and
an image.

49 (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said processor is further operative to store an attribute for said status certification for said message, wherein said attribute comprises at least one of:

said message identifier;
said disposition identifier; and
said status notification.

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50. (Original) The system of claim 49, wherein said processor is further operative to perform administrative functionality, wherein said administrative functionality comprises at least one of:

deleting said attribute;
monitoring said attribute;
moving said attribute;
forwarding said attribute;
securing said attribute;
archiving said attribute;
backing up said attribute;
informing a recipient of said attribute; and
blocking said attribute.

51. (Original) The system in claim 37, further comprising a data repository for storing at least one of

said message,
said message identifier,
said disposition identifier, and
said report.

52. (Original) The system in claim 51, wherein said data repository comprises a database.

53. (Original) The system in claim 51, wherein said data repository comprises:

a first database for storing said message; and
a second database for storing said attribute.

54. (Original) The system in claim 37, wherein said request is a secure request.

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55. (Original) The system in claim 37, further comprising a network access device to issue said request, wherein said network access device comprises at least one of:

- a telephone;
- a television;
- a cellular-capable device;
- a personal digital assistant; and
- a computer.

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56. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a status certification for a voicemail message in an advanced intelligence network (AIN), comprising:

- (a) an intelligent peripheral operative to assign a message identifier for said message;
 - (b) said intelligent peripheral further operative to create a disposition identifier in response to a disposition event; and
 - (c) said intelligent peripheral further operative to associate said disposition identifier with said message;
- said intelligent peripheral further operative to receive a request for a status notification from a sender of said message;
- said intelligent peripheral further operative to compile said message identifier and said disposition identifier to generate said status notification; and
- said intelligent peripheral further operative to provide said status notification in response to said request.

57 (Cancelled)

58 (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~57~~56, wherein said intelligent peripheral is further operative to:

- (g) bill a party to said message for said providing of said status certification.

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59. (Original) The system of claim 56, wherein said disposition event comprises at least one of:

a managing event; and
a dispatching event.

60. (Original) The system of claim 59, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

accessing said message;
deleting said message;
presenting an indication of said message;
expiring said message; and
terminating a recipient of said message from said communications network.

61. (Original) The system of claim 59, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

denying said status certification of said message; and
malfunctioning of said status certification of said message.

62. (Original) The system of claim 59, wherein said dispatching event comprises at least one of:

forwarding said message; and
replying to said message.

63. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~57~~56, wherein said status notification comprises at least one of:

an audio message;
a video message;
a text message;
a short message service message; and
a markup language document.

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64. (Original) The system of claim 56, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:
a type identifier;
an alphanumeric identifier;
a capabilities identifier; and
an annotation.

65. (Original) The system of claim 56, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:
a communication network identifier;
a device identifier;
a role identifier;
a party identifier;
a date identifier; and
a time identifier.

66. (Original) The system of claim 65, wherein said role identifier comprises at least one of:
an originator;
a sender;
a caller;
a recipient; and
a system administrator.

67. (Original) The system of claim 65, wherein said party identifier comprises at least one of:
an email address;
an access address;
a voice sample; and
an image.

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68. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~57~~56, wherein said intelligent peripheral is further operative to store an attribute for said status certification for said message, wherein said attribute comprises at least one of:

said message identifier;
said disposition identifier; and
said status notification.

69. (Original) The system of claim 68, further comprising a service management system wherein said service management system is operative to perform administrative functionality, wherein said administrative functionality comprises at least one of:

deleting said attribute;
monitoring said attribute;
moving said attribute;
forwarding said attribute;
securing said attribute;
archiving said attribute;
backing up said attribute;
informing a recipient of said attribute; and
blocking said attribute.

70. (Currently Amended) The system in claim ~~57~~56, wherein said request is a secure request.

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71. (Currently Amended) The system in claim 57, further comprising a network access device to issue said request, wherein said network access device comprises at least one of:

- a telephone;
- a television;
- a cellular-capable device;
- a personal digital assistant; and
- a computer.

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72. (Original) The system in claim 56, further comprising:
a service switching point functionally connected to said intelligent peripheral; and
an interface functionally connected to said service switching point and operative to accept a communication directed to said AIN.

73. (Original) The system in claim 72, further comprising a mobile telephone switching office (MTSO) functionally connected to said interface and operative to facilitate a cellular device communication directed to said AIN.

74. (Original) The system in claim 72, further comprising a computer network functionally connected to said interface and operative to facilitate a computer-based communication directed to said AIN.